

Serial N .: 09/576,094
Attorney Docket N . 2C03.1-191

REMARKS

By the present Response and Amendment, Claim 1 is amended and new Claims 21-40 are introduced. Claims 1, 6-11 and 21-40 are now pending. No new matter is introduced.

Claim 1 is objected to because of informalities, which are believed to be addressed by the present amendments to the claim.

Claims 1 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,228,115 to Hoffmann et al in view of Kelman and Sourdille et al, and Claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoffman et al and Kelman and Sourdille et al, and further in view of Li et al. Applicant respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration in view of the present amendments. Independent Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a positive power anterior chamber ocular implant including:

... two haptics providing a four-point attachment, each haptic having an "S" configuration with a smooth transition portion extending normal to a peripheral edge of the lens, an intermediate beam extending from the transition portion and having a length of approximately 5.25 mm, and a concavely curved outer portion extending from the transition portion, wherein each haptic has a thickness in the range of 0.25 mm to 0.35 mm at the point of attachment to said lens.

The art of record does not disclose or suggest a positive power anterior chamber ocular implant having the claimed haptic configuration. The haptics of the Hoffmann et al. and Kelman references extend tangentially from their lens structures, rather than normal to the peripheral edge of the lens. The presently claimed haptic arrangement is believed to provide substantial advantages over previously known designs, including reduced optical transients, reduced glare, improved torque/tilt response, reduced change in vault upon haptic compression, and reduced compression forces (see for example, Specification at page 15, line 10 through page 17 line 2). New independent Claims 21 and 33, as well as the dependent claims, are similarly believed to define over the art of record.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments submitted herein and the above comments, it is believed that all grounds of rejection are overcome and that the application has now been placed in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits early and favorable action. Should there be any further questions or reservations, the Examiner is urged to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney at (770) 984-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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